and Indian Iron and Steel Company at Kulti. However, the technology has yet to be upgraded to an economically viable commercial venture.

Steel Authority of India is going in for research and development to develop a suitable technology for production of formed coke for use in ductile iron production based on CFRI technology.

Reduction of Coal Supply to DPL, Durgapur

1436. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BCCL has reduced its supply of coal to DPL, Durgapur sometime back;

(b) if so, when and to what extent;

(c) what was the estimated loss as a result thereof;

(d) what were the reasons for such reduction;

(e) whether the cut has been restored; and

(f) if so, since when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE(: (a) No; Sir. There has been no reduction in supplies of coking coal to D.P.L., Durgapur. During January to July, 1988 two lakh tonnes of coking coal was supplied as against 88,000 tonnes during the same period of the previous year.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Import of Polymer from Yugoslavia

@1437. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import polymer from Yugoslavia; and

(b) if so, the total quantum of polymer proposed to be imported from that country during the year 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Quantities have not been firmed up yet.

Subsidence of Raniganj Coalfields

1438. *SHRI NARAYAN KAR:* Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that West Bengal Government has approached the Central Government for controlling the problem of subsidence in Raniganj coalfield areas;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Central Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The West Bengal Government referred to the subsidence proned areas identified by Director General of Mines Safety and requested planning and implementation of measures for controlling subsidence.

(c) Raniganj area has been witnessing occurrences of land subsidence over the last several years. This is due to unscientific method of coal exploitation practised in the pre-nationalisation days.

As early as in 1950, the Director General of Mines Safety declared 40 places as unsafe for habitation in the Burdwan District of West Bengal. Construction activities have been prohibited in 25 of these areas. A number of steps are being taken by Asansol-Durgapur Development Authority and Eastern Coalfields Limited to combat the problems of subsidence.

@Previously Unstarred Question 709, *transferred from* the 2nd August, 1988.